

**WORKFORCE SYSTEMS LETTER NO.: 07-06****DATE:** March 23, 2007

EFFECT:	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>INFO</u>	<u>ATTACHMENTS</u>
	[X] All Formula Grantees	[X]	[X]
	[X] All WIA Grantees	[X]	[X]
	[X] Workforce Information Staff	[X]	[X]

SUBJECT: Workforce Information Driving Regional Economies

1. **Purpose:** To announce a regional conference that furthers the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) framework of fostering economic growth in a region by identifying and utilizing local area resources. To begin making new and strengthening existing connections for workforce information activities to spur the creation of innovations as embodied in the WIRED infrastructure. To develop new expectations of workforce information that would make it both easier to access and use in comprehensive and creative ways and that would be applied in regional economies by a broad array of entities including educators, economic developers, researchers, and private sector concerns.

To explore ways in which workforce information will fit into a broader scope that links information to WIRED efforts. The conference aims to provide leadership, support and tools needed to transform local areas into regional economies.

2. **Background:** The global economy of today requires changes to the workforce system of yesterday, including new and dynamic workforce information. ETA will soon award the third round (Generation III) of WIRED grants throughout the nation and related innovations are also occurring in other disciplines such as Education and Economic Development. This event will enable networking across many disciplines that use/produce workforce information as well as learning new tools and there applications.
3. **Target Audience:** The conference and workshops are designed for both leaders and experts interested in creating the new talent development system for Region 1 state staff, such as: Workforce Information Directors, State Leaders from Workforce Investment, Economic Development, Education, WIRED Grantees, Local WIB Associations, and private entities involved with workforce information.

We encourage State teams to participate in this conference. Workforce innovation requires new networks to be built at state and local levels between workforce investment, education, economic development, universities, venture capitalists and others. Identifying the best teams in advance should maximize your "return." The session features workshops with a sampling of WIRED Generation I and II recipients. Workshops will also provide information on data and tools that are useful in defining regions, high growth

industries, and talent needs. Since there will be no repeat of any workshop (see attached draft agenda), it would be beneficial to bring a team that could adequately cover the sessions and bring the information back to the states. To view the full agenda, please go to www.Maine.gov/labor.

4. **Meeting Site and Hotel Accommodations:**

The 2-day conference will be held at the Eastland Park Hotel in Portland, Maine on May 9th and 10th, 2007. The Eastland Park Hotel is located at:

157 High Street
Portland, ME 04101
Phone: (207) 775-5411
Fax: (207)775-2872
Toll Free: (888) 671-8008

- The Eastland Park is located in the center of Maine's largest port city, just minutes from the Portland Jetport and the Portland International Ferry terminal. The Eastland is also convenient to Interstate 295 and the Maine Turnpike.
- **Driving Directions from I-95:** Take I-95 toward New Hampshire / Maine (Portions toll). Passing through New Hampshire – then crossing into Maine, merge onto I-295 N via Exit 44 toward South Portland / Downtown Portland (Portions toll). Take Forest Ave. / US-1 S / ME-100 S Exit 6A. Turn right onto US-1 / ME-100 / Blue Star Memorial Hwy / Forest Avenue. Continue to follow Forest Avenue. Turn right onto Congress St. and then turn right onto High St. End at Eastland Park Hotel.
- For information on transportation to The Eastland Park Hotel from the airport, train or bus station, please visit www.transportme.org.
- A block of rooms has been reserved under the name ***U.S. Department of Labor - Workforce Information Driving Regional Economies*** at the federal per diem rate of \$82 per night, in addition to sales tax. Attendees should call the hotel at the number referenced above, identifying yourself as part of this group.

5. **Registration:**

Please fax or email a completed registration form to Linda J. Roy at 207-287-2947 or Linda.J.Roy@Maine.gov no later than April 15, 2007. The registration form accompanies this announcement. (Please note that registering for the conference and registering for the hotel are separate and distinct.)

Reservations are the responsibility of each attendee and must be made **no later than April 15, 2007**. After this date, special rates and/or availability cannot be guaranteed. In order to guarantee your room, please be sure to provide a major credit card when making your reservation. Room and tax charges, along with all incidental charges, are the responsibility of each individual and must be paid upon departure.

The meeting will begin on May 09, 2007 with registration from 8:00 – 8:30 AM in the hotel lobby. Welcoming remarks will begin at 8:30 AM.

Cancellations:

If for some reason you need to cancel your registration, please call the hotel directly at 1-888-671-8008. Please note that any guaranteed reservations not canceled three days prior to the arrival date will be billed to the credit card.

Air Transportation:

Attendees are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements. Taxi cabs can be found at the airport curbside.

Ground Transportation and Parking:

There is an independently owned Gateway Garage adjacent to the hotel on High Street. The hotel will reduce your overnight parking fee to \$11 for hotel guests with a validated parking ticket. If you move your car in and out before you are in for the evening you will be responsible for all the fees at \$1.25 per hour. Valet parking is also available for \$20 for a 24 hour period with full in/out privileges.

6. **Inquiries:** If you have any questions concerning the sessions, please contact the following people: for logistics, Ann Mulvaney at 617-788-0111 and for programmatic content, Paul Cleary at 617-788-0153.

Grace A. Kilbane
Regional Administrator

Enclosures

AGENDA

Workforce Information Driving Regional Economies

Portland, Maine

DAY 1	WEDNESDAY, MAY 9, 2007			
8:30 am - 8:45 am	Welcome & Introduction <i>Maine Governor John Baldacci</i> <i>Grace Kilbane, Administrator</i> <i>US DOL/ETA Region I</i>			
8:45 am - 10:45 am	Global Impacts on the Regional Economy <i>Randall Kempner, Vice President</i> <i>Regional Innovation Council for Competitiveness</i> The WIRED Regional Economy <i>Gay Gilbert, Administrator</i> <i>US DOL, Office of Workforce Investment</i>			
10:45 am - 11:00 am	BREAK			
11:00 am - 12:30 pm	Building Regional Partnerships and the Importance of New Data New data sets in support of regional economic development 1st Generation WIRED Grantee: Maine Boatbuilding Industry 1st Generation WIRED Grantee: New York Finger Lakes Region			
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	LUNCH			
1:45 pm - 3:00 pm Workshops	2nd Generation WIRED Grantee: Northern New Jersey Partnership	1st Generation WIRED Grantee: NY Finger Lakes Consortium	Local Users of WITS and other Tools	Local Employment Dynamics (LED) Overview
3:00 pm - 3:15 pm	BREAK			
3:15 pm - 4:30 pm Workshops	Insure Strategic Success: Data and Information - Tools You Need	Occupational Supply and Demand Gap Analysis	Resources and Tools Available on the Web: Asset Mapping	Dynamic Economic Models: IMPLAN / REMI

DAY 2	THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2007			
8:30 am - 9:30 am	New Tools to Support Regional Economic Development Decision-Making <i>John Dorrer, Director of Labor Market Information</i> <i>Andy Reamer, Fellow, Urban Markets Initiative, Brookings Institution</i> Workforce Information and Economic Development <i>John Dorrer, Director of Labor Market Information</i>			
9:30 am - 9:45 am	BREAK			
9:45 am - 11:00 am Workshops	2nd Generation WIRED Grantee: South West Connecticut / New York State Partnership	Economic Development Data Tools	How to Create Data Driven Strategies for Economic Development Planning	Harnessing the Census Dataweb and the Dataferrett
11:00 am - 11:15 am	BREAK			
11:15 am - 12:30 am Workshops	Competency Model, Skills Based Projections, O*NET Development	Linking Higher Education to the Workforce	Economic Growth Strategy	2nd Generation WIRED Grantee: Tri State New Jersey WIRED Grantee
12:30 pm - 12:45 pm	ADJOURN			



***U.S Department of Labor—Region 1
Employment and Training Administration (ETA)
In Partnership with the Maine Department of Labor***

***“Workforce Information Driving Regional Economies”
Eastland Park Hotel - Portland, Maine
May 9-10, 2007***

DESCRIPTION OF MEETING:

General areas and specific topics to be covered during the 1 1/2 day meeting (Full day Wednesday, 1/2 day Thursday) include:

- To make new and strengthen existing connections for workforce information activities
- To spur the creation of innovations as embodied in the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) infrastructure
- To develop new expectations of workforce information that would make it both easier to access and use in comprehensive and creative ways that would be applied in regional economies by a broad array of entities including educators, economic developers, researchers, and private sector concerns
- To explore ways in which workforce information will fit into a broader scope that links information to WIRED efforts
- To highlight electronic tools which support the WIRED initiative such as WITS and LED
- To provide leadership, support, and tools needed to transform local areas into regional economies
- To locate information online please view www.Maine.gov/labor and or www.doleta.gov/usworkforce

TARGET AUDIENCE:

The conference and workshops are designed for Region 1 state staff, LMI Directors, State Leaders from Workforce Investment, Economic Development, Education, WIRED Grantees, WIBs, Census Bureau, Federal Reserve Bank, and Private Entities involved with workforce development

REGISTERING ATTENDANCE FOR THE MEETING:

Please fax or email a completed registration form to Linda J. Roy no later than April 20, 2007 (207-287-2947 or Linda.J.Roy@Maine.gov). The registration form accompanies this announcement. (Please note that registering for the conference and reserving a room at the hotel are separate and distinct.)



MEETING SITE AND HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

The Eastland Park Hotel

157 High Street
Portland, Maine 04101
207-775-5411
888-671-8008 Toll Free
207-775-2872 Fax
www.eastlandparkhotel.com

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Reservations are the responsibility of each attendee and must be made **no later than April 15, 2007**. After this date, special rates and/or availability cannot be guaranteed. In order to guarantee your room, please be sure to provide a major credit card when making your reservation. Room and tax charges, along with all incidental charges, are the responsibility of each individual and must be paid upon departure. The meeting will begin on Wednesday, May 09, 2007 with registration from 8:00 – 8:30 AM in the hotel lobby. Welcoming remarks will begin at 8:30 AM.

CANCELLATIONS:

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**U.S. Department of Labor—Region 1
Employment and Training Administration (ETA)
In Partnership with the Maine Department of Labor**

***“WORKFORCE INFORMATION DRIVING
REGIONAL ECONOMIES”***

The Eastland Park Hotel – Portland Maine

May 9 - 10, 2007

(This conference will begin Wednesday morning)

Please type or print your information, as it should appear on each name badge. Each attendee needs to fill out a registration form. For questions call Linda Roy at 207-287-1249

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Organization: _____

Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email: _____

Special Needs: ☐Accessibility/Disability/Assistance/ Dietary

**Registrations must be made no later than April 15th.
Early registration is appreciated.**

***Please fax or email this completed registration form to Linda J. Roy at
207-287-2947 or Linda.J.Roy@Maine.Gov***

PLEASE REMEMBER TO MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATION

By April 15, 2007 - The Eastland Park Hotel at 1-888-671-8008

**NOTE: By faxing/emailing this form, you are registering for the conference itself.
Room reservations are made separately through the Eastland Park Hotel.**